

EXHIBIT 10

LETTER

Jeffrey Epstein's Attorneys: A Fair Plea Deal

The attorneys for a man accused of sexual abuse of young women defend the prosecutors' decision to drop federal charges against him.

March 4, 2019

To the Editor:

Re "[The Cowardly Labor Secretary](#)" (editorial, March 3):

Your editorial's conclusions are in profound conflict with the reality as we, Jeffrey Epstein's current and former lawyers, knew it.

When he was United States attorney for the Southern District of Florida in 2007, Alexander Acosta, the current labor secretary, oversaw a plea deal for Mr. Epstein involving charges of solicitation of prostitution involving young women. Your underlying premise is that Mr. Acosta had capitulated and not filed federal charges because Mr. Epstein had a "high-priced defense team."

This was categorically denied by the Southern District's then first assistant, Jeffrey H. Sloman, in an [Op-Ed article in The Miami Herald](#) on Feb. 15. Mr. Sloman correctly represented the existence of "significant legal impediments to [federally] prosecuting" what was a quintessentially state case.

He also correctly represented that the government had achieved its principal objectives — a felony plea, incarceration, millions of dollars in restitution and monetary settlements, and lifetime sex offender registration — through its agreement with Mr. Epstein. That agreement was reviewed at multiple levels of the Justice Department. An agreement rather than a trial is how over 97 percent of federal cases get resolved, through negotiations by two teams of experienced professionals. The case lacked the credible and compelling proof that is required by federal criminal statutes.

That the guilty plea was required in a state, not federal, court reflected the absence of evidence that Mr. Epstein used the internet, traveled to a location away from his home for the purpose of having illegal sex, commercially trafficked women to others, engaged in force, fraud or coercion, used drugs or alcohol to entice young women who came to his house to exchange sexual massages for money, possessed child pornography or in other ways violated federal law.

On March 5, Jeffrey Epstein's Attorneys: A Fair Plea Deal | The New York Times
The number of young women involved in the investigation has been vastly exaggerated, there was no "international sex-trafficking operation" and there was never evidence that Mr. Epstein "hosted sex parties" at his home.

You have 3 free articles remaining.

[Subscribe to The Times](#)

Finally, Mr. Epstein has gone to prison and made enormous monetary settlements relying on his negotiated agreement. He is entitled to finality like every other defendant.

Kenneth W. Starr
Martin G. Weinberg
Jack Goldberger
Lilly Ann Sanchez

A version of this article appears in print on March 5, 2019, on Page A26 of the New York edition with the headline: Jeffrey Epstein's Attorneys: A Fair Plea Deal